

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

ITEM

10

DECISION

TOPIC

Chapter 62, State Forest Camping - Notice of Intended Action

The Departments requests Commission approval for publication of a Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 62 “State Forest Camping”. These amendments make several changes to the rule. First, it updates the definition of “immediately family” to also include spouses and legal guardians. Secondly, it limits the number of persons allowed on campsite to be no more than six with two exceptions: one exception is for designated chaperoned organized youth group campsites, and the other exception is for families who exceed six persons, are all members of an immediate family, and cannot logically be split to occupy two campsites. The final amendment removes the requirement that the occupants of an approved second tent on a campsite must be under the age of 18 and dependent members of the immediate family occupying the basic unit. This last change will, for example, allow individuals such as a husband and wife to sleep in two small separate tents on the same campsite, and allow unrelated campers with six or fewer people, such as a school club or friends, to have an approved second tent on a campsite.

Kevin Szcodronski, Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
February 11, 2010

Attachment(s): NOIA Chapter 62 “State Forest Camping”

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES [571]
Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code Section 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 62, “State Forest Camping,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These following amendments are proposed:

1. Update the definition of “immediate family” to also include spouses and legal guardians.
2. Limit the number of persons allowed on a campsite to no more than six with two exceptions: (1) designated chaperoned organized youth group campsites; and (2) families who exceed six persons, are all members of an immediate family, and cannot logically be split to occupy two campsites.
3. Remove the requirement that the occupants of an approved second tent on a campsite must be under the age of 18 and dependent members of the immediate family occupying the basic unit. For example, this amendment will allow individuals such as a husband and wife to

sleep in two small separate tents on the same campsite, and allow unrelated campers with six or fewer people, such as a school club or friends, to have an approved second tent on a campsite.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendment on or before March 30, 2010. Such written material should be directed to the Sherry Arntzen, State Parks Bureau, Department of Natural Resources, 502 East Ninth Street, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-6794 or by E-mail to Sherry.Arntzen@dnr.iowa.gov. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact Mrs. Arntzen at (515)242-6233.

There will be a public hearing on March 30, 2010, at 2 p.m. in the Fourth Floor East Conference Room in the Wallace State Office Building, at which time persons may present their views orally or in writing. At the hearing, persons will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendment.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department of Natural Resource to discuss further.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code Sections 461A.3, 461A.48 and 461A.57.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—62.2(461A), definition of “Immediate family,” as follows:

“Immediate family” means spouses, parents or legal guardians, dependent children, and grandparents.

ITEM 2. Rescind subrule 62.6(3) and adopt the following new subrule in lieu thereof:

62.6(3) No more than six persons shall occupy a campsite except for the following:

(1) Families that exceed six persons may be allowed on one campsite if all members are immediate family and cannot logically be split to occupy two campsites.

(2) Campsites which are designated as chaperoned organized youth group campsites.

ITEM 3. Adopt the following new subrule 62.6(5):

62.6(5) Camping is restricted to one basic unit per site except that a small tent may be placed on a site with the basic unit. The area occupied by the small tent shall be no more than 8 feet by 10 feet and the tent shall hold no more than four people.

Date

Richard A. Leopold, Director